Agreement with Brazil on Blending Ethanol with Petrol

283. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start blending ethanol with petrol for use as an automobile fuel as has been in Brazil;

(b) if so, whether Government have entered into an agreement for sharing technology in this regard; and

(c) what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) with a view to examining various issues related to blending, logistic, marketing economic viability etc., three Ethanol Gasoline Pilot Projects have been commissioned at Miraj (Hazarwadi), Bareilly (Aonla) and Manmad (Paniwadi) on 15.04.2001, 22.06.2001 and 24.06.2001 respectively. Any decision on blending of Ethanol with Petrol for use as an automobile fuel will depend on favourable outcome of these Pilot Projects.

(b) Not so far Sir. However it is under anvil.

(c) Details of Memorandum of Understanding are still being worked out.

Import of Ethanol Blending technology

284. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started operation of blending ethanol with petroleum;

(b) whether technology for this has been imported from other countries; and

(c) if so, the names of the countries from whom this technology has been imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of the answer at (b) above.

Filling up of vacant posts in Ministry of PNG

285. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of posts of Group A, B, C and D personnel lying vacant in various wings under his Ministry;

(b) since when these posts are lying vacant; and

(c) by when these vacancies will be/are proposed to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The details of the posts of Group A, B, C and D Personnel lying vacant with date:—

Sl.No.	Group	Name of the posts	No. of Posts	Since when
1.	Group 'A'	Advisor (Refineries)	01	11.08.1999
2.	Group 'A'	Senior analyst	01	15.04.1998
3.	Group 'B' Gazetted	i. Private Secretary	01	01.05.2001
		ii. Assistant Library & Information Officer	01	01.06.1995
4.	Group 'B' Non-Gazetted	i. Assistant	02	(i) 12.08.1998 (ii) 14.08.1998